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COPY.

7 October 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

ATTENTION: Mr. Sam J. Papich

SUBJECT: COURT FOSTER WOOD
INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

Reference is made to a 25 March 1961 and a 6 July 1961 investigative report on captioned Subject which have previously been furnished to this Agency.

^{3, 8}
[Michael Weimer Stratton, born 21 January 1941, Austin, Texas], who is a current Agency employee, has recently been interviewed concerning his knowledge of Court Foster Wood whom [Stratton] had³ known since mutual attendance in high school. Attached is a detailed report of the information furnished by [Stratton] concerning his knowledge of Wood. ³

Since [Stratton]³ personally has sufficient reason to question the activities of Wood and the activities of the associates of Wood, [Stratton] has been advised to discontinue any further contact with Wood. ³

It would be appreciated if your Bureau would furnish this Agency any additional information brought to your attention concerning Court Foster Wood and of particular interest would be any information received by your Bureau concerning past association of Court Foster Wood with [Michael Weimer Stratton]. ³

The above information is for your use only and should not be disseminated outside your Bureau.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:

R. L. Bannerman
Acting Director of Security

Attachment:
As noted

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DATE: 1 OCT 1964
FROM: DUTY FOSTER AND
RE: [REDACTED] - 100

Reference is made to a March 1961 and a January 1962 letter from the FBI to the State Department regarding the above mentioned matter.

1. The first part of the document is a letter from the President of the United States to the Congress, dated January 1, 1861. It is a formal address, and it is the first of its kind since the signing of the Constitution. The President, James Buchanan, is addressing the Congress, and he is doing so in a very formal and dignified manner. He is discussing the state of the Union, and he is discussing the issues that are facing the country at that time. He is also discussing the role of the President, and he is discussing the responsibilities of the Congress. The letter is a very important document, and it is a very interesting one to read. It is a document that shows the President's view of the country, and it is a document that shows the President's view of the Congress. It is a document that is worth reading, and it is a document that is worth studying.

and since they occasionally have different issues of opinion, the author of this and the author of the other document have been advised to eliminate any differences of opinion.

It would be appreciated if your Bureau could furnish this Agency any additional information brought to your attention concerning Court Foster. Good and of particular interest would be any information received by your Bureau concerning past association of Court Foster and with Richard Weiner.

The above information is for your use only and should not be disseminated outside your Bureau.

FOR EST. FUNCTION OF CEREAL IMMUNITIES

W. L. Lawrence
Acting Director of Security

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SUBJECT: Court Foster Wood

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[Michael Weimer Stratton] has recently advised that Court 3
Foster Wood was a relatively close high school friend of [Stratton]
during mutual attendance at George Mason High School, Falls Church,
Virginia, during 1957 to 1959. [Stratton] described Wood as an
average high school student who had no particular problems with
the exception that there were domestic difficulties between the
father and mother of Wood.

3
[Stratton] became acquainted with the parents of Wood and made
occasional visits to their home during the above period of time.
The father of Wood, Foster Wood, is an attorney who was then living
in Falls Church. Some time ago the father and mother of Court Wood
split up and Court Wood and father moved into an apartment on
Columbia Road, Washington, D.C.

3
[Stratton] advised that after graduation from high school in
June 1959 he lost any close contact with Wood who then started to
attend George Mason College, where he seemed to have an interest
in philosophy. 3 [Stratton] started to attend a military school and
Wood expressed extreme opposition to military schools.

3
[Stratton] married in 1960, which also helped to move [Stratton]
somewhat out of the social circle of Wood. 3 [Stratton] believed that
for approximately a year, during 1959 to 1960, he did not actually
see Wood but advised that after this period in which he did not
see Wood he has had a number of contacts with Wood, many of which
occurred during mutual attendance at the University of Virginia
Extension School (night school) in early 1961. On one occasion
3 [Stratton] attended a party at the apartment occupied by Wood and
father at the invitation of Wood, and on this occasion came into
contact with the "new set of friends" of Court Wood, whom [Stratton] 3
described as being "beatnik types." Girls in attendance at the
party, according to [Stratton], appeared to be of the "street pickup"
type. 3

After the above party Wood occasionally telephoned [Stratton] 3
and about Christmas 1960 Wood called and stated that he was going
to Cuba under the auspices of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.
3 [Stratton] called on Wood after the return of Wood from Cuba and at
that time Wood lauded Castro very highly. The father of Wood was
also present and [Stratton] obtained the impression that the father
was also in sympathy with Castro. 3 [Stratton] recalled that he again,
at a later date, had visited the Wood apartment, this being an
occasion when Wood had been visiting somewhere in Falls Church
and contacted [Stratton] to ask [Stratton] to take Wood home. On this
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occasion [Stratton] stayed at the Wood apartment for approximately an hour, and advised that on this occasion he observed some Soviet property and pamphlets in the apartment and that these pamphlets had been printed in England. Stratton also observed a number of copies of the USSR map also in the apartment.

3 [Stratton] also advised that, as previously indicated, he would meet Wood at the University of Virginia Extension School which was conducting night classes at the Washington and Lee High School. Both Wood and 3 [Stratton] were attending the night classes but were not attending mutual classes. [Stratton] recalled that on one of the occasions when he had met Wood while attending night classes Wood talked about going to Cuba, Mexico for permanent residence, and made some statement to the effect that he would be willing to renounce his United States citizenship.

3 [Stratton] also recalled that Wood was known as a "Communist" to the Americans were afraid of the word "Communist" and were being warned by the newspapers. Wood had complained that the Fair Play for Cuba Committee was unable to obtain proper publicity in the United States.

In June 1961 the two night classes were terminated and Stratton did not recall the last time in contact with Wood as being late August or early September 1961. Wood's last contact in regard to the purchase of a bicycle and other items was through some mutual friends. Stratton never met Wood again. The wife of Stratton had been directed by the wife of Wood, and Wood visited Stratton and wife to the apartment for a party and also so they could meet his wife. [Stratton] and wife, together with Gail and Thomas Varney, Washington Boulevard, Arlington, who had also attended high school with Stratton, the wife of 3 [Stratton] and Wood, accompanied [Stratton] and wife to the above party. The other individuals at the party were of the "beatnik crowd" with several of the men wearing beards, and the girls appearing to be of the "street play" type. In view of this [Stratton] and wife only remained at the party for a very short time but did meet the wife of Wood. The wife of Wood had been attending Bryn Mawr College and was en route to attend Bryn Mawr during the school year of 1960-1961. [Stratton] stated that the other of the wife of Wood is still attending Bryn Mawr but that they were at the party together at that time.

03
The party was attended at the apartment for approximately one hour and was attended by approximately twenty individuals.

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The wife of Wood was known to B. J. but did not go to the party. B. J. was known to Stratton, Baker, and lived in Washington, D. C. and was known to Stratton.

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16 June 1961 The following information was obtained from the file of the FBI, New York City, dated 10 June 1961, regarding the activities of the "Black Panther Party" (BPP) in New York City. The BPP is a black nationalist organization which was founded in 1966 in Oakland, California, by Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale. The BPP is active in New York City, and its members are active in the following areas: (1) the collection of funds for the BPP; (2) the distribution of BPP literature; (3) the organization of BPP rallies and demonstrations; (4) the organization of BPP training camps; (5) the organization of BPP health clinics; (6) the organization of BPP food programs; (7) the organization of BPP clothing programs; (8) the organization of BPP housing programs; (9) the organization of BPP transportation programs; (10) the organization of BPP education programs; (11) the organization of BPP social programs; (12) the organization of BPP cultural programs; (13) the organization of BPP sports programs; (14) the organization of BPP entertainment programs; (15) the organization of BPP religious programs; (16) the organization of BPP political programs; (17) the organization of BPP economic programs; (18) the organization of BPP environmental programs; (19) the organization of BPP community programs; (20) the organization of BPP international programs. The BPP is active in New York City, and its members are active in the following areas: (1) the collection of funds for the BPP; (2) the distribution of BPP literature; (3) the organization of BPP rallies and demonstrations; (4) the organization of BPP training camps; (5) the organization of BPP health clinics; (6) the organization of BPP food programs; (7) the organization of BPP clothing programs; (8) the organization of BPP housing programs; (9) the organization of BPP transportation programs; (10) the organization of BPP education programs; (11) the organization of BPP social programs; (12) the organization of BPP cultural programs; (13) the organization of BPP sports programs; (14) the organization of BPP entertainment programs; (15) the organization of BPP religious programs; (16) the organization of BPP political programs; (17) the organization of BPP economic programs; (18) the organization of BPP environmental programs; (19) the organization of BPP community programs; (20) the organization of BPP international programs.

In regard to specific associates of Wood, Stratton listed in the party which he attended at the apartment occupied by Wood and wife. There were approximately thirty individuals present, a number of whom he casually met but whose names he did not recall. Stratton can recall that the following individuals were present: "Will" McDonald, now believed living in Washington, D. C. but who had attended George Mason College with Wood; and "Charles" Kiser, who lives in Washington, D. C. and who attended

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1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the problem.

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